



John Salomone
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 Cedar Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

Parks & Recreation Department

Bruce Till
Superintendent

NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2011

I. CALL TO ORDER

Don Woods called the meeting to order at 7:28 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Board: Joni Boni (7:35 PM), Bill DeBlasio (7:30PM), Eileen Francolino, Ed Marchion,
Bob Tofeldt, Mary Udice, Don Woods and Kathy Zolad
Board Members Absent: Bernie Feeney, Jeff Hedberg and Ken Leggo
Staff: Superintendent Bruce Till
Town Liaison: None present

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2011

MOTION: Mary Udice made a motion to approve the minutes of March 15, 2011. Eileen Francolino seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion to approve the minutes of March 15, 2011 was unanimously approved with a 6-0 vote.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

V. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The March monthly report was e-mailed to all board members. Kathy Zolad inquired about the position of the Tree Warden. Bruce Till explained that Tree Warden goes through a program to get certified. He does work closely with Wethersfield and reports to Bruce Till what needs to be done. He does not work with anything electrical. He also clarified that it is not a full time position.

PETER DeRITA, JR.

Bruce Till met with DeRita this morning regarding the synthetic field in terms of staging areas, scheduling, and certification of the stone. Milone & McBroom representatives were also at this preconstruction meeting. Once the stone is certified then the contract will be signed. Construction will start May 1. Construction meetings will be held weekly every Thursday morning. This project should be completed by the end of August.

KAREN WROBEL

Bruce Till met with Mrs. Karen Wrobel last week. Her son Shayne was killed last November on his way home from the skatepark. Memorial tagging was removed last month from the skatepark only to be tagged again. The purpose of this meeting was for the family to decide what they wanted in terms of a

bench, tree and/or plaque in memory of Shayne Wrobel. Bruce Till would like to work with the family to get this done.

Bruce Till also addressed the tagging to Mrs. Wrobel in hopes of reaching out to ones who are using the skatepark. The police are involved since this is now considered vandalism. If tagging continues, arrests could be made and the skate park could potentially be closed. Eileen Francolino suggested that areas of the skatepark be painted by kids in various designs or colors. Jon Boni thinks the tagging would stop if one person got arrested. Bruce Till has met with the police, various school principals and kids at the skatepark to get the message across that it is vandalism and arrests will be made. Don Woods asked if a chain linked fence could be put around the skatepark in the event it is closed. Bruce Till explained that the only fence to be reused is only 4 feet. Bill DeBlasio suggested that a skate ramp could be painted purple (Shayne's favorite color) by the kids and that he would volunteer his services to oversee this.

Again, Bill DeBlasio also brought up having a light installed in that area. Bruce Till said that he had addressed this to the Town Engineer and they were cutting back on lighting at that time. Eileen Francolino asked if the park is closed at sundown. Bruce Till said that it should be and the park rules were posted on a sign that is faded. A larger sign with park rules was posted but had been torn down. Eileen Francolino asked if the Wrobel's are still proceeding with naming the skatepark after their son. Bruce Till had given Mrs. Wrobel an application to do so at their meeting and explained the process to her. Bruce Till will be following up with Mrs. Wrobel.

BURLINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT/ROBERT STANLEY

Don Woods had mentioned that Robert Stanley was very appreciative of the donation made in memory of his father.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The Church did an environmental assessment of the outdoor area which found low contamination in Preschool playground area. The fence was removed and the grounds were dug approximately 2 feet which included wood fiber. More soil needs to be dug up and tested before it will be refilled with soil and wood fiber. Once this is completed then the fence will be reinstalled and playground equipment will be put back. This should take a week or so. Bruce Till sent letters of disclosure out to parents of children in the preschool program. He has received few calls which the main concern was getting the children back outdoors as soon as possible.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

GOLF TOURNAMENT UPDATE

Currently there are 64 players registered. Last year there was a total of 120 players registered. Parks & Recreation staff have been making phone calls to all of last year's players as well as last year's sponsors. The T-sign sponsor is also at half the amount of last year. Some sponsors are not sponsoring at the same level. Bruce Till will be looking for new sponsors.

EXTRAVAGANZA

Bruce Till set up the next meeting for Tuesday, May 3, 2011 at 5pm with the members of the Extravaganza Committee.

Bill DeBlasio met with the fathers of the Travel Basketball teams to form a committee with John Brunetti as President. He will be a representative and has spoken to Karen Gallichio to bring some programs earlier. This is to run independently from Parks & Recreation.

Bill DeBlasio asked if a temporary speed bump could be installed near the entrance of the Little League

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Field since he has witnessed cars speeding. He also commented that new latches are needed. Bob Tolfeldt asked when is opening day at Clem Lemire. Bruce Till informed him that Little League Baseball's opening day is set for April 30. The field is closed for lacrosse.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Kathy Zolad to adjourn, Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:22PM with a 8-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Loralyn Callahan